

Problem-Solving Courts

Clerks Conference
June 9, 2010



What is a Problem-Solving Court?

An immediate and highly structured judicial intervention that incorporates the following concepts:

- Enhanced information sharing
- Collaboration with social service providers
- Linkages with community resources based on assessed risk and needs
- Participant accountability
- Continuous program evaluation



Eligibility

- ▶ Adults
- ▶ Juveniles
- ▶ Families
- ▶ Criminal defendants – diversion and post-conviction, felony and misdemeanor
- ▶ Parties in civil proceedings



Models

- Drug Court
- Reentry Court
- Mental Health Court
- Veterans' Court
- Community Court
- Family Dependency Drug Court
- Domestic Violence Court



Services

- Screening for eligibility and services
- Assessment
- Education
- Referral
- Service coordination and case management
- Supervision
- Judicial involvement
- Program evaluation



Evaluation

- Adult drug courts reduced recidivism by up to 50% and can produce a return of up to \$5.37 for every \$1.00 invested in drug court
- Allen County Reentry Court graduates demonstrated a 39% reduction in recidivism



Fiscal Support

- › Gifts, bequests and donations from private sources
- › Grants and contract money from governmental sources
- › Other forms of financial assistance approved by the court
- › User fees
- › City or County General Fund



User Fees

Court may charge a fee for problem-solving court services (IC 33-23-16-23)

- Board of Directors shall adopt rules establishing a range of fees for problem-solving court services
- Court is required to adopt a schedule of fees charged to participants by local rule
- Clerk is required to collect the fees and transmit the fees to the auditor for deposit in the appropriate user fee fund (IC 33-37-8)



User Fees

Interim Rules for Problem-Solving Courts (Section 12)

- "A problem-solving court may require eligible individuals to pay a problem-solving court services fee not to exceed fifty dollars (\$50) per month per referral to a problem-solving court."



Chemical Testing Costs

A problem-solving court may require participants to pay for any required chemical tests. (IC 33-23-16-24)



Diane Mains, Staff Attorney
Indiana Judicial Center
30 S. Meridian St., Ste 900
Indianapolis, IN 46204
317.234.5757
dmains@courts.state.in.us

[illegible]